

GAPS IN PROCUREMENT OF CUBAN PUBLICATIONS

as of: 11 December 1962

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The procurement of Cuban serial publications by the Acquisitions Branch, CIA Library is effected in toto through the [REDACTED]. With the exception of the two week period in late October- early November 1962, during the U.S. Navy's quarantine of Cuba, this facility has permitted the Branch to order and receive Cuban newspapers by air mail (approximately four days transit time), or by surface mail (averaging three and one-half weeks transit time). The serials ordered and received comprise the bulk of Cuban serials issued; such items as military organs which are not for public consumption can not, of course, be procured in this fashion. To the degree that such non-commercial publications are desired, our lack of success in acquiring them through any available channels constitutes a gap.

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The dearth of Cuban books and monographs constitutes the principal gap in our collection operations. The use of other Sov-Bloc procurement centers [REDACTED] has not uncovered any profitable source although Moscow has recently supplied two or three items in demand, and the search has widened to include [REDACTED] and other outlets in the West. This search will continue in the hope that a major source for Cuban books and monographs may be located.

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